2nd March 1929]

Police

Alleged Police vigilence over the work of Mr. G. V. Ponniah Sastri.

* 1658 Q.—Sriman BISWANATH DAS Mahasayo: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether Mr. G. V. Ponniah Sastri, Member of the All-India Congress Committee and resident of Iticompadu, Bapatla taluk, Guntur district, was being watched and followed by a Criminal Investigation Department officer in January 1929 in the course of his village reconstruction work in Bapatla taluk from place to place; and

(b) if so, the reasons for the same?

A.—(a) & (b) The Government have no information but have called for it.

Alleged Police espionage against political leaders.

* 1659 Q.—Mr. A. KALESWARA RAO: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have ordered vigorous police espionage against all political leaders and workers since the Calcutta Congress;

(b) if so, why they have so ordered; and

(c) what is the additional cost to the Government in the Police Department on account of this Police espionage being vigorously carried on?

A.—(a) No.
(b) & (c) Do not arise.

Mr. A. KALESWARA RAO:—"May I know whether the Government are aware that a large amount of police espionage is being carried on?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"No, Sir."

Mr. A. KALESWARA RAO:—"If it is going on, who is responsible for it?"

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"That is hypothetical question."

Mr. D. NARAYANA RAJU:—"May I know whether any Police officer can give order in this matter without specific orders from the Government?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"I should like to have notice of the question."

Assignment of lands

Grant of land to ex-army men.

* 1660 Q—Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether all ex-army men, both combatants and non-combatants, who applied for lands have been given lands;

(b) whether any such applications are still pending disposal; and

(c) whether these men will still be given preference?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) In regard to both combatants and non-combatants no returns were compiled before 1924. After that year there have been returns regarding the applications from combatants alone. These show that 7,185 applications have been met by grant of land. As an application by an eligible person is not refused except on the ground that the land applied for cannot be granted, it is impossible to say how far actual applicants have ultimately failed to get land. The number of applications pending disposal on 31st December 1928 is reported to have been eleven.

(*c*) The hon. Member is referred to the answer given to question No. 951 at the meeting of the Council held on 29th November 1928.

Inams

Resumption of Doratanam inam lands in Parlakimedi taluk.

*1661 *Q.*—Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) the nature and extent of the Doratanam inam lands within the Parlakimedi Revenue taluk of Ganjam district;

(*b*) whether these inams are proposed to be resumed, and if so, the reason why;

(*c*) the total approximate amount of assessment proposed to be fixed on these lands on resumption;

(*d*) whether it is a fact that there are proposals to give (on resumption) these lands on patta to the Raja of Parlakimedi over the claims of the existing inamdars; and if so, why; and

(*e*) whether the Collector of Ganjam and the Revenue Board, in accordance with the Board's Standing Order ever proposed to grant (on resumption) these inams on patta to the present inamdars?

A.—(*a*) As the lands have not yet been surveyed their extent is not accurately known. It has been roughly estimated at about 12,000 acres. The inams in old days constituted the remuneration for "Police" service, viz., the guarding of the ghats leading to the Maliahs to prevent raids by the Sowrahs.

(*b*) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer to question No. 1566 asked by Mr. Sriman Biswanath Das Mahasayo. The services for which the inams constituted the remuneration are neither rendered nor required; nor are they likely to be required in future.

(*c*) The lands have still to be surveyed and settled.

(*d*) It is not proposed to issue pattas for the lands in the name of the Raja of Parlakimedi. The Government do not admit the claims of the ex-inamdars except in so far as they themselves hold occupancy rights in any part of the lands.

(*e*) The answer is in the negative.

Resumption of Doratanam inam lands.

*1662 *Q.*—Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) the year in which the proposals to resume the Doratanam inams were first made;